



## **Russell Choice Neighborhood Coordinating Committee Meeting**

*February 13, 2019*

*Office Environment Company*

*1136 W. Market Street*

*10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.*

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- **Welcome and Introductions (Lisa O.)**
- **Vision Russell Transformation Plan (John Hawkins)**
  - Addendum to plan and updated roadmap
  - Adoption process as Neighborhood Plan
- **Action Activities (Gretchen Milliken & Kathleen O'Neil)**
  - Updates on Gateway Murals, Vacant Lots, and SmART Stop Bus Shelters projects
- **Implementation Grant**
  - Housing
    - Phase I Demolition/Infrastructure/Construction Start (Gretchen & Bernard)
      - Messer is General Contractor
      - Development Proposal at HUD awaiting final approval
      - Groundbreaking Ceremony sometime in March
      - Naming Phase I Building and Site (John)
    - Phase II Update
      - Messer is General Contractor
      - Projected construction start this summer
    - Phase III Updates
  - Relocation (Kathy Head)
    - All households in Phases I and II have moved.
    - *The Beech* has relocated to Shawnee High School.
    - Metro Parks has moved from the Baxter Community Center. Will be returning after the building is expanded and renovated. Date TBD.
    - Urban Strategies will be moving their offices to the Baxter Community Center in late February.

- Relocation meeting with Phase III households held on January 28. All families eligible for relocation benefits. Relocation surveys began January 29 and are nearly completed. Section 8 briefings will start in March 2019. Actual moves will also likely begin in March. Projected completion date for relocation is September 2019.
- Demolition (**Bernard Pincus**)
  - Messer overseeing Phase II demolition.
  - Innovative Demolition is sub-contractor.
  - Demo work will be done in three sub-stages.
- People (**TaLonda Holland, Kristie Stutler & Dan Farrell**)
  - # Beecher Residents active in Case Management
    - Urban
    - Family Self Sufficiency Program
  - Employment
  - Training Programs
  - Section 3 Opportunities
  - MOAs with service providers \_\_\_\_ Executed, \_\_\_\_ Pending
  - New Partnerships and Resources
  - Recent & Upcoming Events
- Neighborhood –
  - Parks and Community Center – **Note: Additional funding must be secured for each of the proposed projects.**
    - Porter Paint site (**Bernard**) - LMHA acquired in late December 2018. Environmental review RFP. Will demo existing buildings. Looking at potential mixed use as commercial/park. Will be engaging community in design.
    - Baxter Community Center (**Gretchen**) – Metro Parks has moved out temporarily and Urban is moving in. Center will be renovated and expanded. Metro Parks will return when complete, along with *The Beech* and potentially other service providers. Getting cost estimate on design work. Will be engaging community in design.
    - Baxter Square Park (**Gretchen**) – in ongoing discussions with Olmstead Conservancy. Park improvements
  - Critical Community Improvements (CCIs)- (**Gretchen & Kathleen**) - Five activities conceptually approved. Conceptual approval is not a guarantee of funding and HUD has requested additional items, including environmental reviews that must be completed before HUD will provide final approval and release funds for each activity.
    - Historic Quinn Chapel Stabilization (**Gretchen**) – proposed project aimed at stabilizing this historically significant

structure for future development and reuse, creating a historic structure report, and hiring a structural engineer and historic preservation consultant. YMCA is arranging for a Phase I Environmental study.

- Smart City Public Safety (John)– proposed project will include installation of 39 cameras, along with a public WiFi network. Updated map of locations. Environmental review underway at LMG.
- The Village @ West Jefferson (Kathleen) – proposed project includes the build out of leasehold space in new commercial/retail building. LMG’s environmental review is pending Section 106 approval. Initial archaeological report completed, however SHPO requesting additional mitigation work.
- Business Center & Plaza at LCCC (Kathleen)– proposed project includes finishing existing leasehold space in the Business Center in LCCC’s Old Walnut Street campus. A letter addressing HUD’s last questions has been submitted and we’re awaiting their response. LMG’s environmental review is pending Lead report information.
- 18<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Redevelopment (Laura Grabowski)– funds will go towards the acquisition, landbanking, and the rehabilitation of vacant lots, commercial, owner-occupied and rental-occupied residential structures along 18<sup>th</sup> Street and the blocks immediately to the east and west. Met with local HUD staff to discuss Environmental review process.

- **Other Russell Updates**

- New Directions Housing Corporation –Dedication ceremony for Bryan Holden’s 2<sup>nd</sup> mural at the Russell Apartments at 1:30 p.m. today. Two murals on Muhammad Ali Blvd.
- Gwen Kelley (with 1619 Flux and Center for Neighborhoods) community art mosaic project being installed at the Beecher management office. Project was funded by the Fund for the Arts and the Humana Foundation.
- Reading Initiatives
  - Russell Reads – **TaLonda**
  - Book Rich Environments – **Dan**

- **Next Coordinating Meeting**

- In May – day or evening meeting, or alternate?
- Suggestions for locations?



# Choice Neighborhood Initiative (CNI) Update

February 13, 2019

# CHOICE

## Vision Russell Transformation Plan & Addendum



# Russell

## TRANSFORMATION PLAN

Louisville, Kentucky

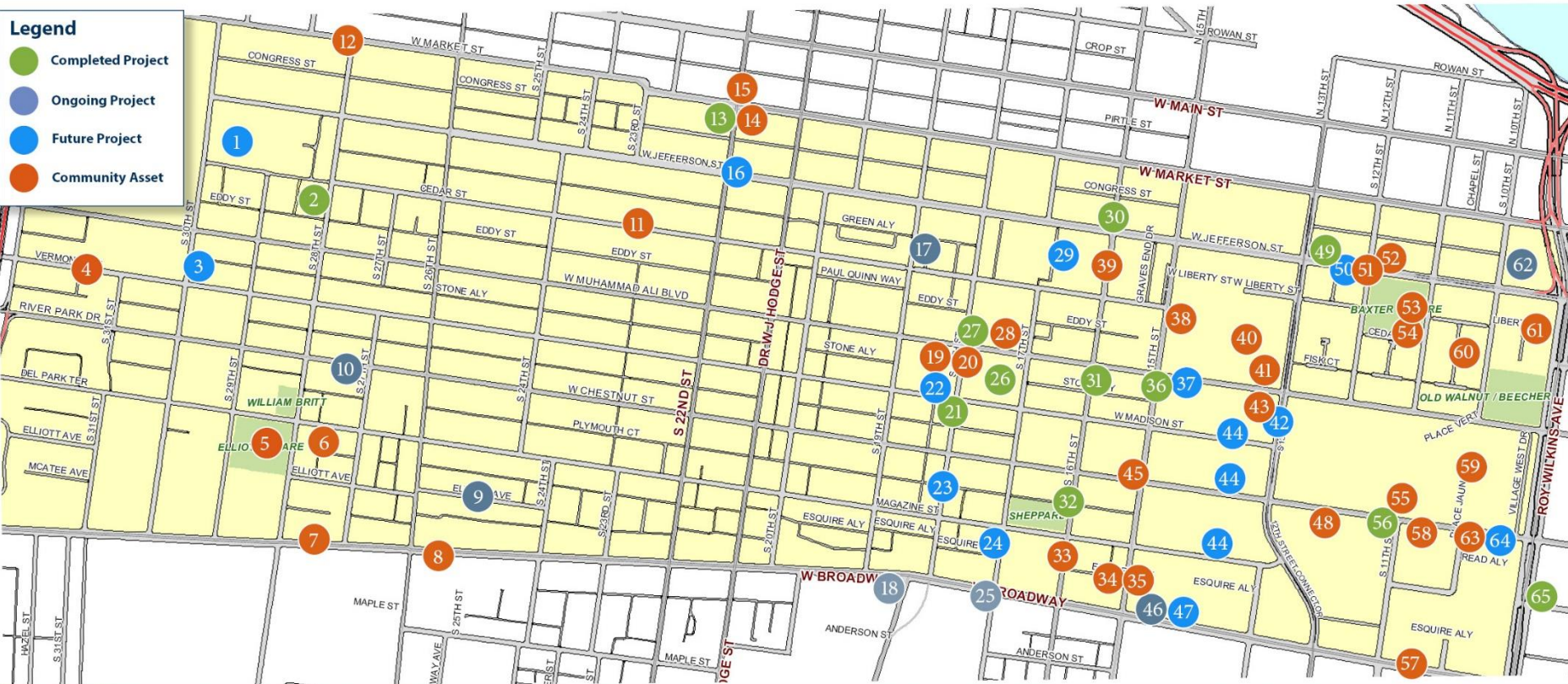
Submitted by **Louisville Metro Housing Authority**  
January 2017





## Legend

- Completed Project
- Ongoing Project
- Future Project
- Community Asset



1. Future World-Class Indoor Track and Field Athletic Facility
2. Produce Park Public Orchard
3. Madison Street Warehouse
4. Blacksmith Iron Works
5. Elliot Park
6. Oak and Acorn Intergenerational Center
7. NIA Center - Kentuckiana Works Job Force Center
8. Lyle's Mall
9. "Keeping it Real" Elliott Street Redevelopment
10. St. Charles Borromeo Adaptive Reuse Project
11. Byck Elementary School
12. Galans Meat Market
13. SmART Stop Location
14. Catholic Charities The Common Table restaurant and Culinary Training Program
15. Oasis Pop-Up Grocery
16. Russell Dream Center
17. Cedar Street Housing Development

18. Future Passport Health Plan Health and Wellbeing Campus
19. ChefSpace Kitchen Incubator
20. Sweet Peaches Restaurant/"There's Love in Louisville" Mural
21. Lily Pad Public Outdoor Kitchen on Former Vacant Lot
22. Small-Scale Retail/Restaurant Development
23. Opportunity Corner Community Meeting Space on Former Vacant Lot
24. Future Bus Rapid Transit Stop
25. Future Western YMCA
26. Russell Apartments and Public Art Site
27. SmART Stop Site
28. Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, Commonwealth Preservation Trades and Charles Young Flag Memorial
29. 1718 Flux Carnegie Library Redevelopment
30. Ouerback Mansion, Rehabbed Affordable Housing
31. Public Mural Site
32. Sheppard Park Sprayground

33. Roosevelt Perry Elementary School
34. Louisville Urban League
35. Pop-Up Miniature Golf Course
36. Public Mural by artist Bryan Holden
37. Future SmART Stop Site
38. Joshua Tabernacle Church
39. Western Cemetery
40. Central High School Stadium and Louisville Fencing Center
41. Junior Achievement of Kentuckiana
42. LCCC Business Plaza
43. Louisville Central Community Centers Old Walnut Street Campus and PNC Gigabit Experience Center
44. Future Railroad Overpass Mural Sites
45. Sweet Evening Breeze LGBT Youth Shelter
46. Russell Neighborhoods Health Center Site
47. Housing Partnership Inc. Mixed-Use Development
48. Central High School
49. SmART Stop Site

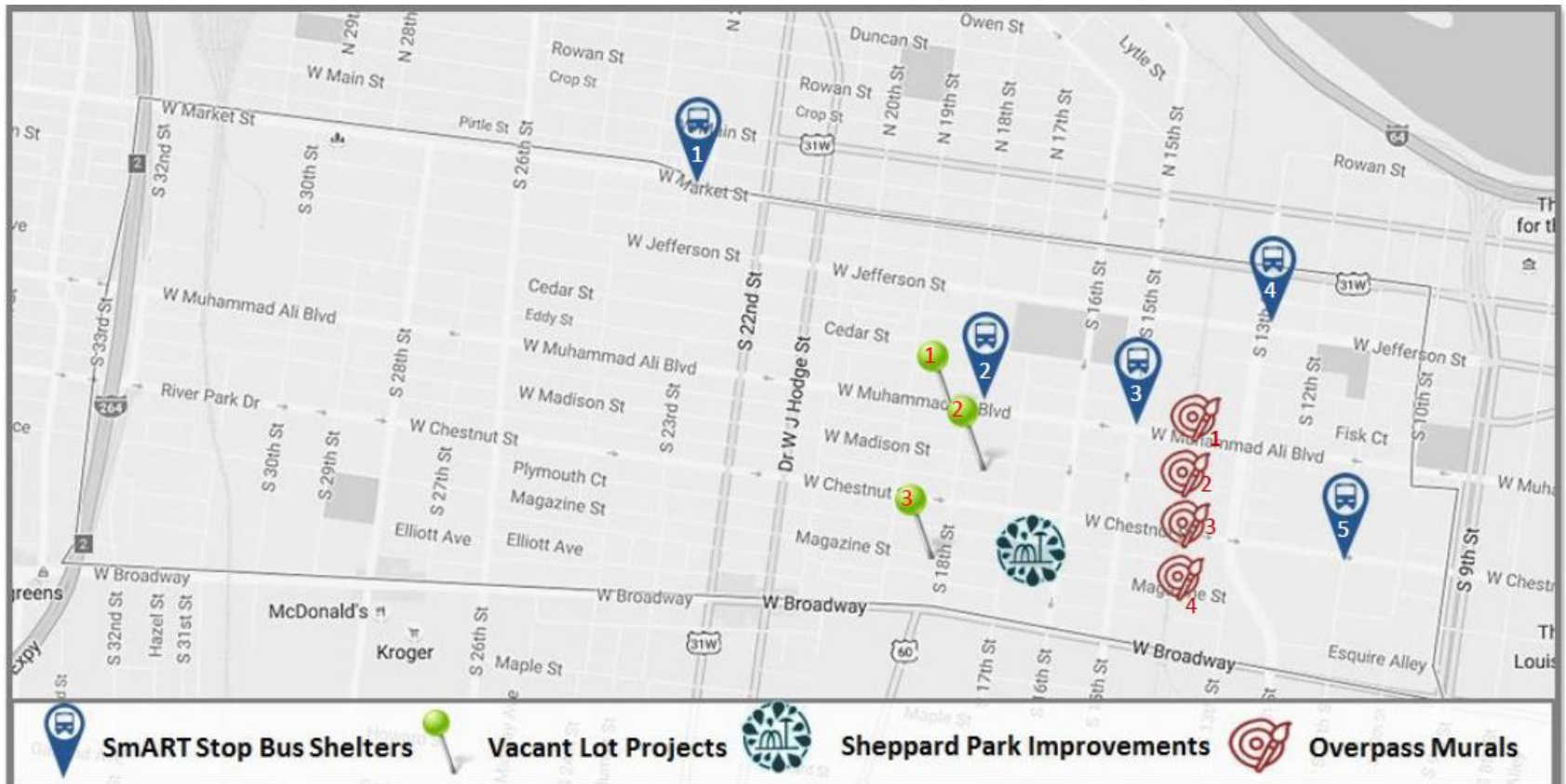
50. Site of The Villages @ West Jefferson
51. St. Peter's Church of Christ
52. Louisville Fire Department Headquarters
53. Baxter Square Park (Olmstead-Designed)
54. Baxter Community Center
55. Coleridge Taylor Elementary School
56. SmART Stop Site
57. Transit Authority of River City (TARC) Headquarters
58. Louisville Free Public Library - Western Branch
59. City View Apartments
60. Beecher Terrace
61. LCCC's Mini-Versity Child Development Center
62. Henry Greene Apartments
63. Chestnut YMCA
64. Historic Quinn Chapel
65. AARP Livable Communities Initiative

# CHOICE

Action Activities



# Action Activity Project Focus Area



## Final SmART Stop Locations:

1. Market @ 23rd
2. Muhammad Ali @ 18th
3. Muhammad Ali @ 15th
4. Jefferson @ 13th– St. Peters Church
5. Chestnut @ 11th– Central High School

## Final Vacant Lot Projects:

1. 510 S. 18th Street- Outdoor community kitchen and seating area
2. 533 S. 18th Street-Landbanked
3. 634 and 636 S. 18th Street-“ Opportunity Corner” and edible landscaping

## Final Gateway Mural Locations:

1. Muhammad Ali Blvd.
2. Chestnut St.
3. Madison St.
4. Magazine St.

# SmART Stop Bus Shelters

*Making Transit Fun*

23<sup>rd</sup> & Market



11<sup>th</sup> & Chestnut



13<sup>th</sup> & Jefferson



15<sup>th</sup> & Ali Blvd.



18<sup>th</sup> & Ali Blvd.



# Neighborhood Gateways

*Welcoming residents and visitors*



# Sheppard Park Improvements

## Recreation Destination

### The History of Sheppard Park

Acquired in 1925, the property that is now Sheppard Park was dedicated for residents of the Russell neighborhood and beyond. The property acquisition came only one year after the City Board of Parks Commissioners instituted segregation of parks in the city of Louisville. This very park was one of the first parks opened to African Americans, along with Chickadee and Seminole parks.

In the 1990's, the park gained a brick picnic pavilion, basketball court, playground and walking path which marks the outline of the original swimming pool.

Sources: Encyclopedia of Louisville, Louisville Courier Journal (August 9, 1995)

Many African Americans travelled long distances to use Sheppard Park, since it had the only swimming pool in the city park system that admitted African Americans. Even though it was well loved, the pool was filled in and the restroom building was demolished in the 1960's after park segregation finally came to an end.

### Who was William Henry Sheppard?

missionary · explorer · human rights advocate


William Henry Sheppard was a free black man, born in Wayneboro, Virginia at the end of the Civil War, March 8, 1865.

In the 1880's, he became an ordained minister and applied with the Presbyterian Church US Mission Board to go to the Congo, but the Board refused him until a young white minister named Samuel Lapsley volunteered to go with him. In 1890, the two missionaries sailed to what is now the Democratic Republic of the Congo and treated each other as equals. In the Congo, Sheppard learned the native language, enabling him to discover the Kuba Kingdom, which no outsiders had visited at that time. He also collected African artifacts, which are displayed in part at the J.B. Speed Art Museum in Louisville and the Hampton Institute in Virginia.


In the 1900's, Sheppard documented the exploitation of the black tribes under the colonial ruler King Leopold II of Belgium. His report brought protests against the Belgian regime in the Congo, securing his status as an international human rights advocate.

In 1912, Sheppard moved to Kentucky, where he served as pastor of Louisville's Grace Hope Presbyterian Church for 27 years. He wrote a book titled "Black Livingstone," which recounts his difficult return to the U.S., a racially divided world where his white colleagues, who knew of his impressive personal and professional accomplishments, denied him equal status and withheld the respect he deserved.

Sheppard died on November 25, 1927. Over 1,000 people attended his funeral, a testament to his enduring heroic legacy.



Kuba cloth  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
19th Century  
Hampton Institute



Brick picnic pavilion  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
1990s  
J.B. Speed Art Museum





# Vacant Lot Transformations – 510 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street, *The Lily Pad*

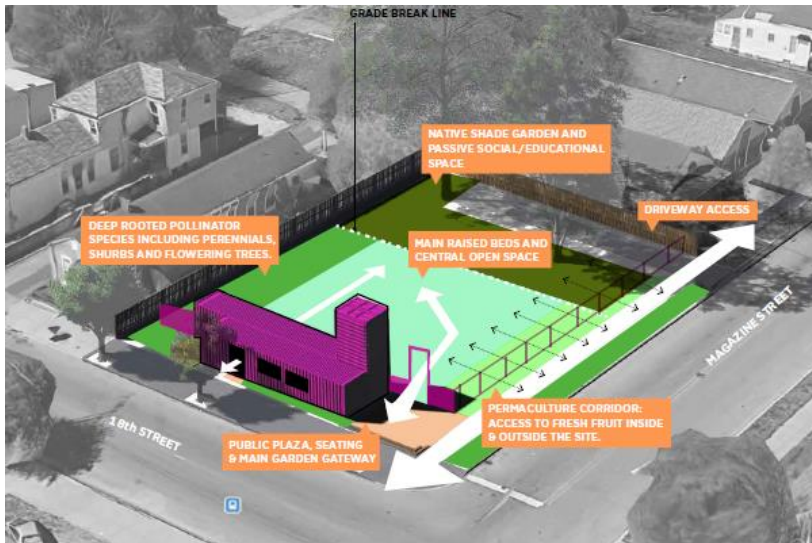




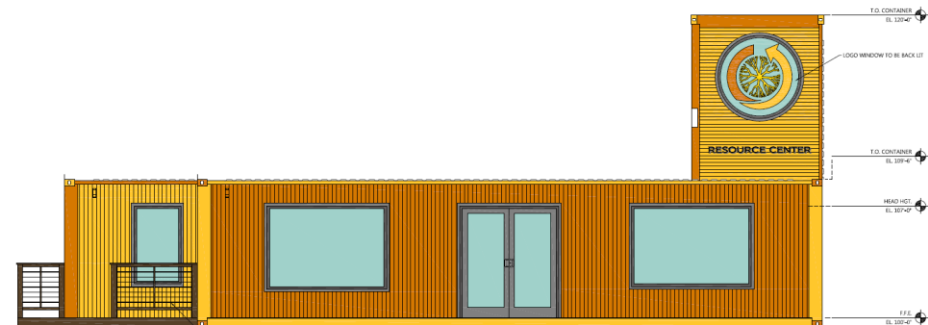
# Vacant Lot Transformations – 634 & 636 S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street



634 & 636 S. 18<sup>th</sup> - Today



Community Garden & Orchard

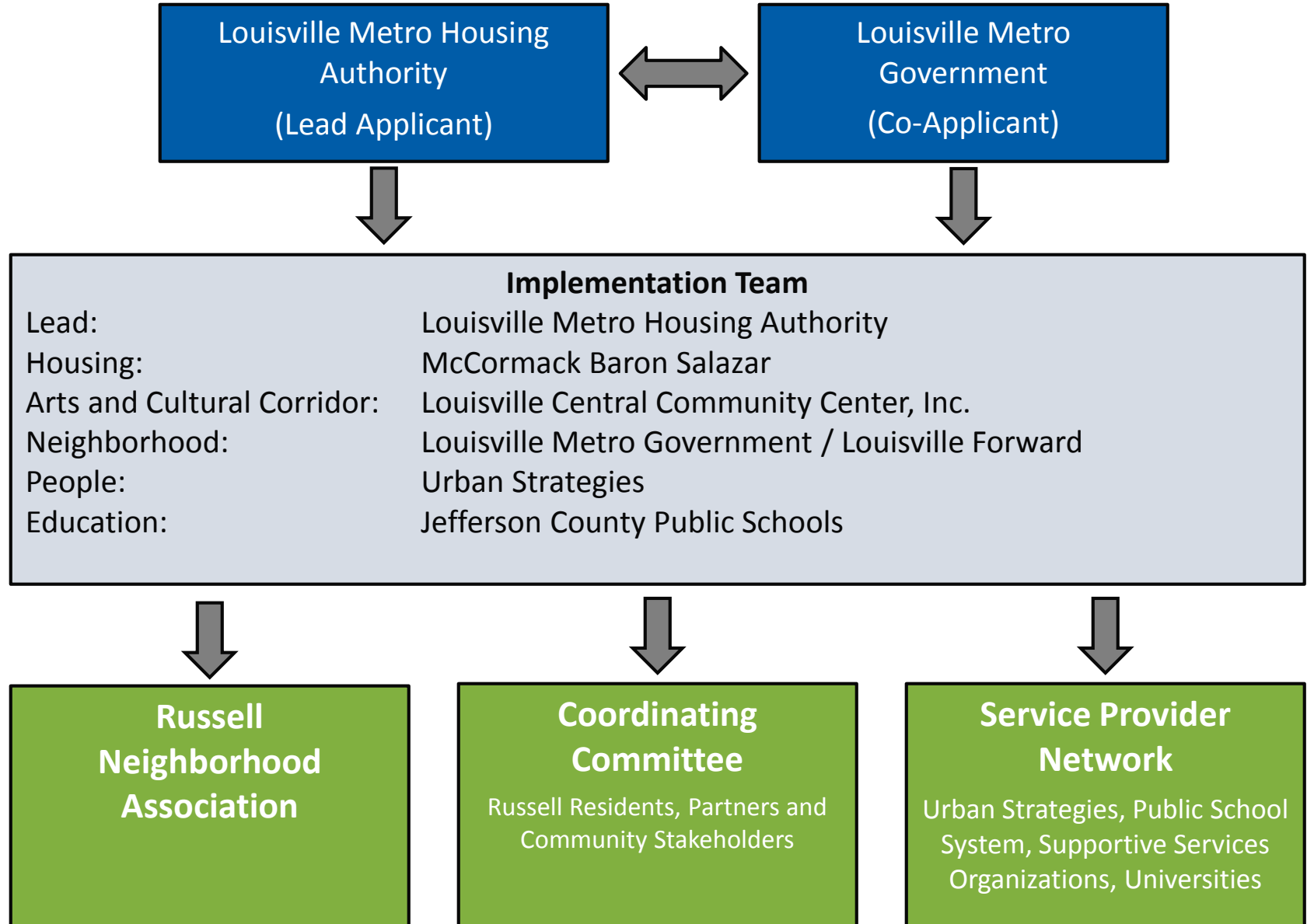


Rendering of Opportunity Corner

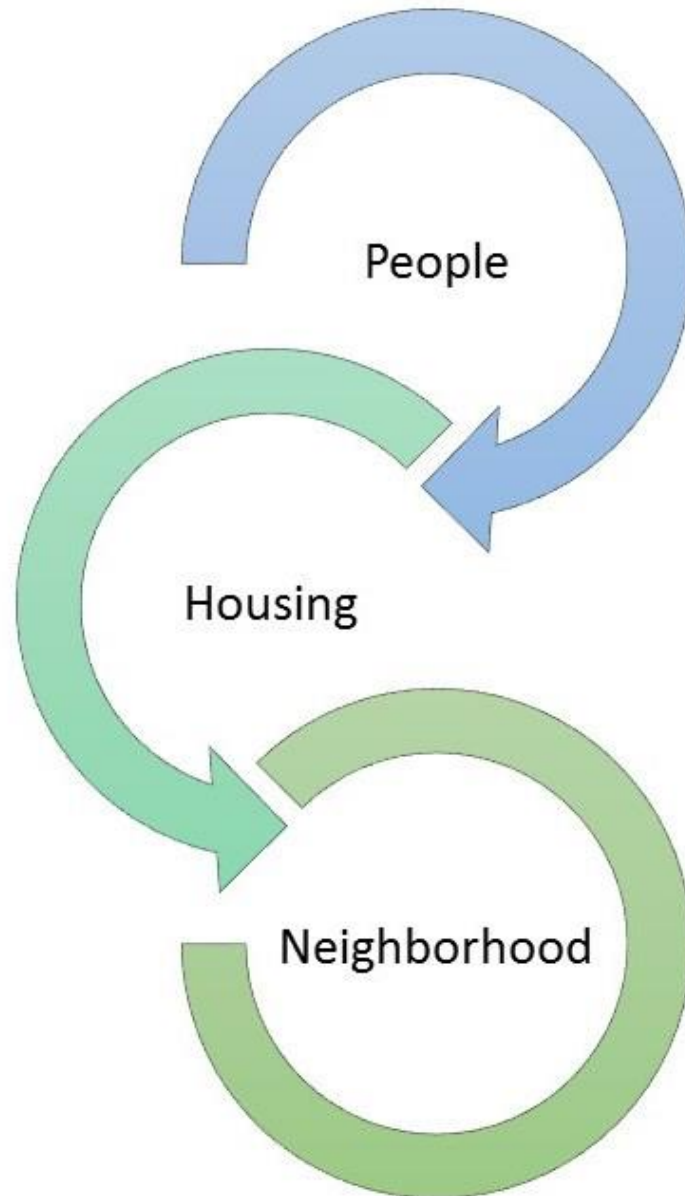
# CHOICE

Implementation

# RUSSELL CNI Governance Structure



# CNI Implementation Grant Components





## **ON-SITE HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT**

- 5 Rental Phases and 1 Homeownership Phase
- 620 Mixed-Income Rental Units - 172 Market, 132 Affordable, 316 Replacement
- 20 Homeownership Units
- Multi-generational, Energy Efficient, Amenity Rich Community
- Ali Arts and Cultural Corridor Plans in Development

## **OFF-SITE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITIONS**

- 442 Replacement Units in Mixed-Income Communities
- Located in Neighborhoods of Opportunity or in Russell



# Phase I Senior Building – Construction Start Early 2019



**Beecher Terrace Phase I**

**Coming  
in  
2020**

*Please excuse  
our appearance  
while we are  
under construction.*

# Phase I Senior Building



- 117 Units for Persons Age 55+
- Management Offices for Senior Building and for Family Units
- On-Site Amenities

# Phase I Senior Building





# Beecher On-site Housing Redevelopment Plan



3 Phases of Rental Housing Currently Under Development



# Aerial Perspective of Beecher Redevelopment





# Mitigation Projects

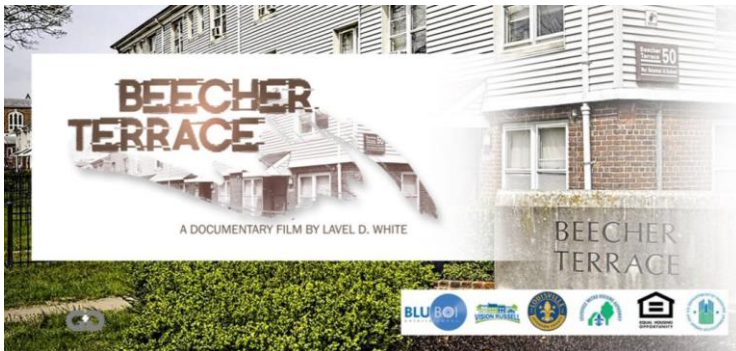


Children at the Louisville Western Branch Library, 1950

## LOUISVILLE STORY PROGRAM

- **Louisville Story Program**  
Darcy Thompson

- **Western Archives**  
Natalie Woods



- **Beecher Terrace Documentary**  
Lavel White

### BEECHER TERRACE ARCHAEOLOGY

Corn Island Archaeology LLC, a cultural resources consulting firm in Jeffersonville, is currently conducting archaeological investigations at Beecher Terrace. Their work is a necessary part of the Clinton Neighborhood Implementation grant that was awarded to Louisville in December 2016. Grant dollars, along with additional funding, will be used to relocate Beecher households, raise the existing buildings and rebuild the site into a new energy efficient, mixed income housing community. Archaeological work first began in January 2017 when preliminary excavations were done across the site. The buried objects (artifacts) found during Corn Island's initial work demonstrated that Beecher is eligible for the National Register of Historic Place. After a year-long consultation process, further study was approved for the site.

Before Beecher Terrace was developed in 1939, the 11.6 acre site contained more than 380 historic lots on its 12 blocks. A sample of these lots has been selected for further excavation. The majority of the work will occur within the archaeological site designated "15JF921". Numerous buried structures, including porches, chimneys, and foundations from late 19th and early 20th century residential and commercial buildings, are located within this area.

Extensive research through census and deed records have provided the names, occupations, and ethnicities of the former occupants, which included both eastern and western European immigrants, African American professionals, and native-born Americans. The line where archaeological work will occur were selected to include a wide representation from each of these groups.

A major objective of the current archaeological project is to tell the story of specific individuals and families, especially of the multiple educated professional African Americans who contributed to this community. The stories of eastern European immigrants will also be examined. Hopefully, the artifacts recovered through this archaeological discovery will fill a gap in currently available data and provide additional information regarding Louisville's historic African American and eastern European populations.

The artifacts recovered during this project will be washed, labeled, and stored at the University of Louisville to be available for future study. Some of the artifacts will go on display here at Beecher Terrace.

To learn more about this project, please go to [www.louisvillestory.org](http://www.louisvillestory.org) where regular updates will be provided. Information on when you can visit the site to learn more from the archaeologists' work will be posted on the website. You can also watch live updates and news on the Facebook page for Corn Island Archaeology.

A Corn Becker pottery jar.

Recovered Coca Cola bottles.

Current grid recovered from the site.

Archaeologists excavating a foundation stone chimney at Beecher Terrace.

Corn Island Archaeologists at work in an excavation trench.

Recovered artifacts ready for washing and cataloging.

**Original Beecher Terrace buildings, circa 1940's.**

**Archaeology** is a means of learning about how people lived long ago. It generally means detailed information on past day-to-day living that is usually found in historic books or other written records.

By examining the objects that people left behind as trash, archaeologists can piece together details of their activities or home life, the workplace, and other institutions like school and church. Because there was no regular trash collection service, items that could not be buried were often thrown into the city (landfills), where they remain preserved for archaeologists to find.

The objects archaeologists find can help reveal a location's use, the dates it was occupied, the season level of its occupants, along with the kinds of food they ate, and sometimes, even their religious affiliation and ethnicity. Artifacts collected from a site can also show where people bought the necessities for daily life, whether locally or from big cities in the east. Recovered overhead bottles can tell us information about the types of stores that plucked residents. Changes in artifact collections from one decade to another might show periods of economic hardship or prosperity. All of this and more can be learned from the study of recovered artifacts.

For more information visit: [www.louisvillestory.org](http://www.louisvillestory.org) • Date: August 29, 2018

- **Archaeology**
  - Data Recovery  
Corn Island/Anne Bader
  - Education  
JCPS/Ryan New



### **BEECHER TERRACE RESIDENTS**

- Case Management Services
- Referrals to Other Supportive Services
- Relocation and Mobility Counseling

### **RUSSELL RESIDENTS**

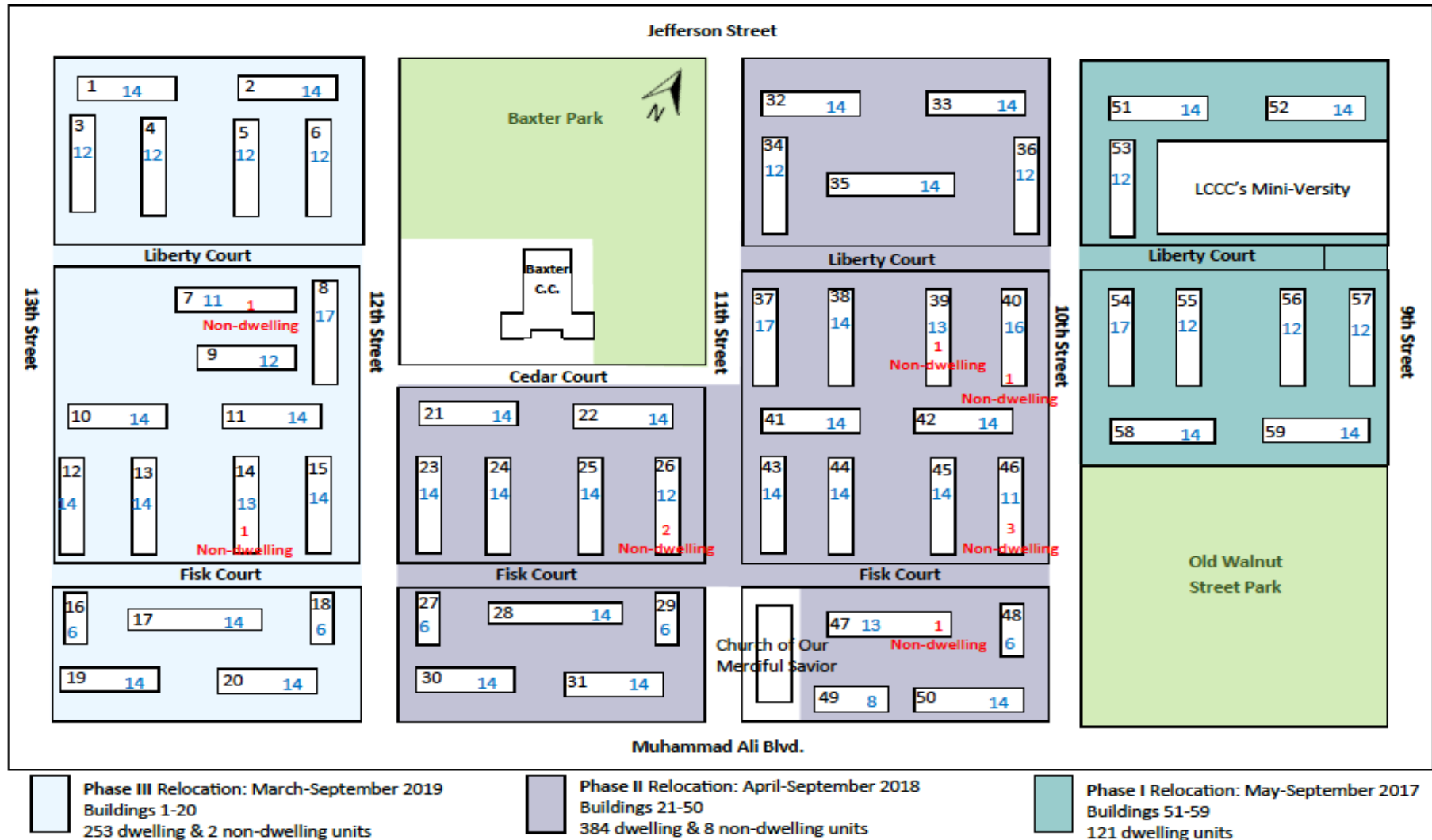
- Supportive Services



**USI | URBAN STRATEGIES, INC.**

*Families at the Center of Results*

# Phased Relocation of Beecher Households



# Phased Demolition of Beecher Buildings





### **PARKS & COMMUNITY CENTER**

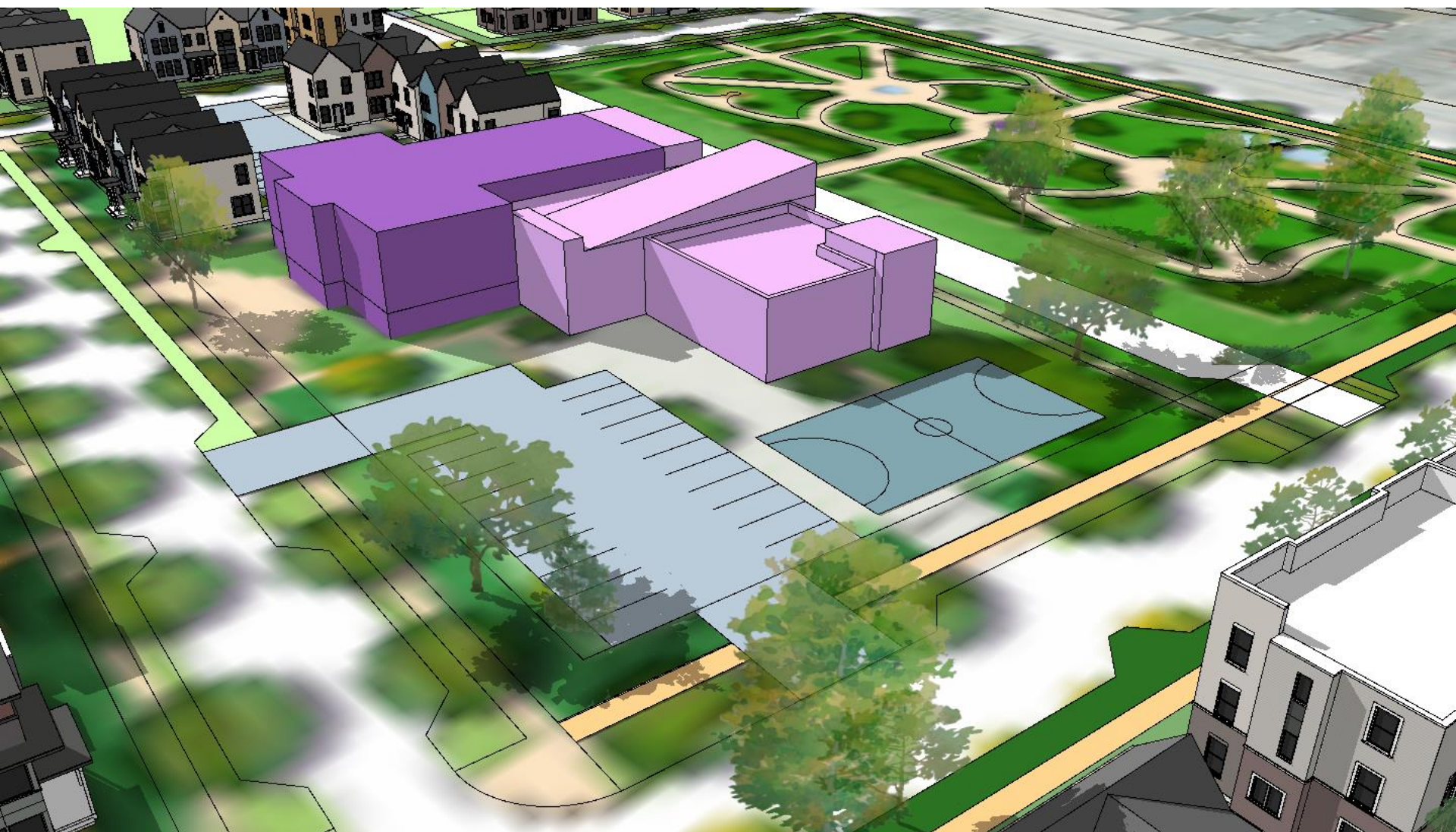
- Baxter Community Center Renovation & Expansion
- Baxter Square Park Improvements
- Porter Site/Relocated Old Walnut Park & New Commercial/Retail Center



## Baxter Community Center Today







Conceptual Drawing of Expanded Baxter Community Center





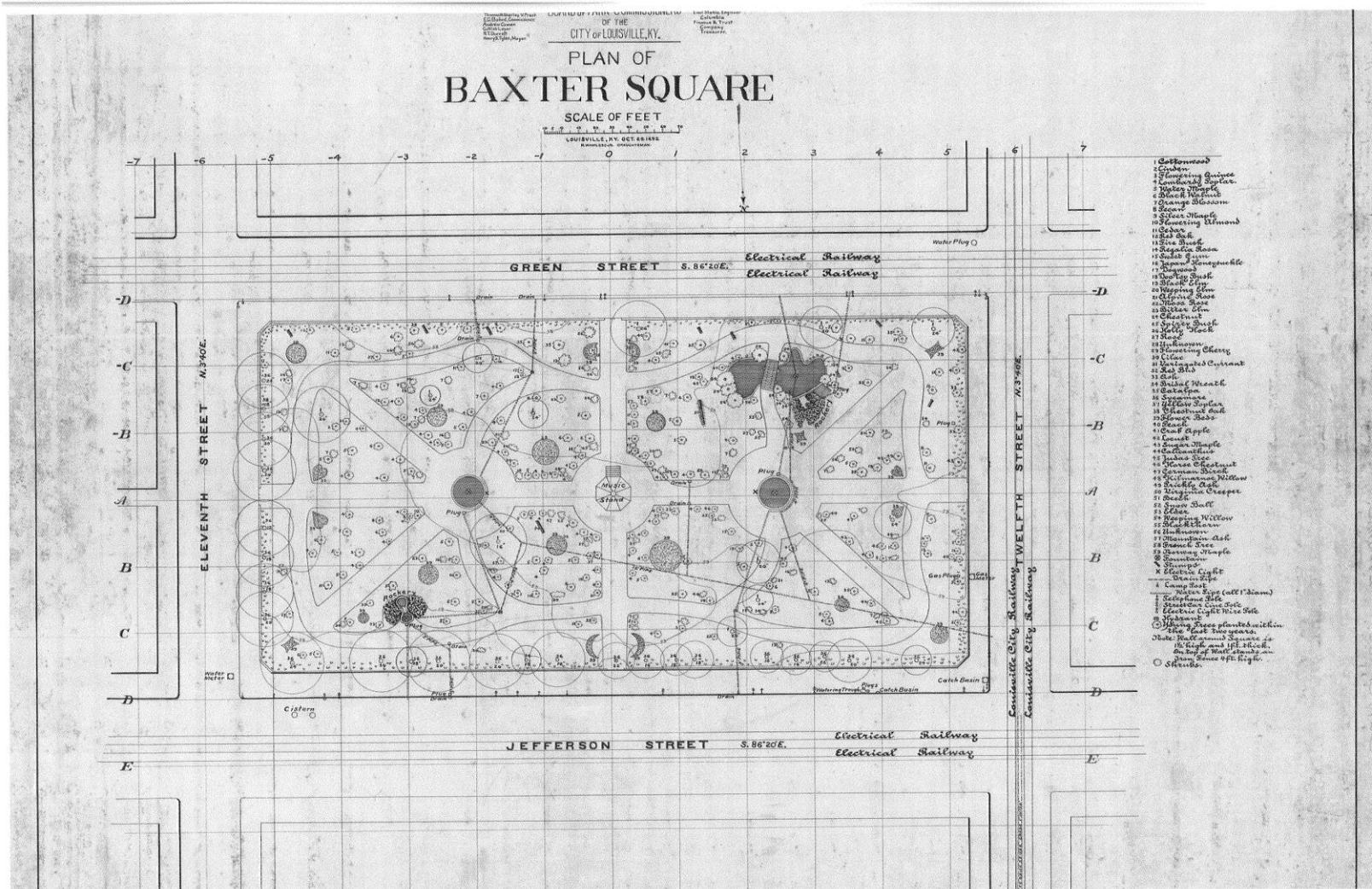
Conceptual Drawing of Expanded Baxter Community Center



# Baxter Square Park Today







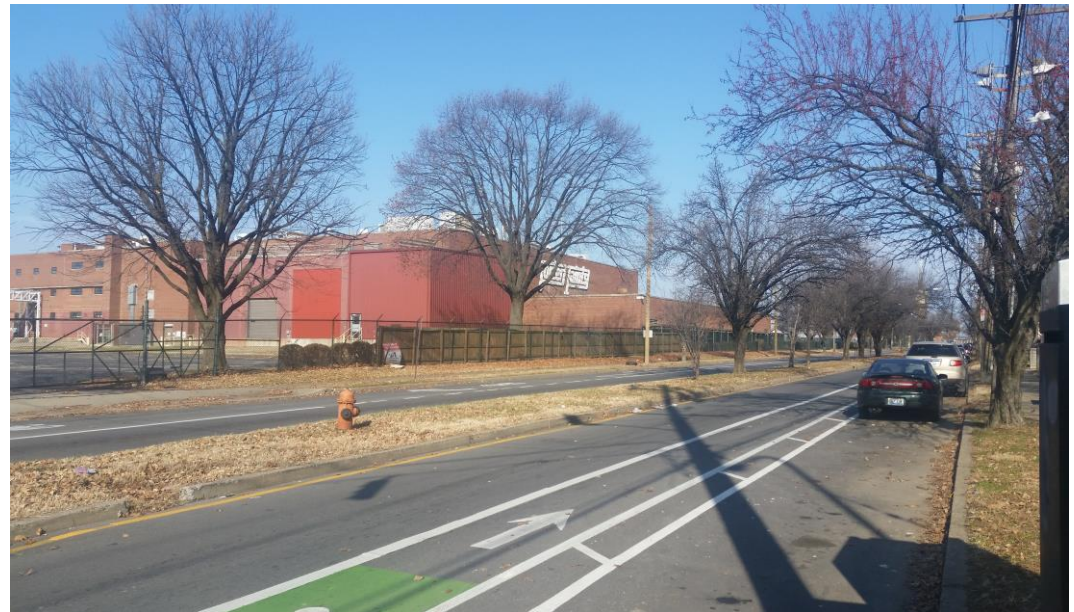
Original Olmsted Design for Baxter Square Park





Conceptual Drawing of Future Baxter Square Park

# Porter Paint Site Today







Conceptual Drawing of Porter Paints Site (Mixed Use & Park)





Conceptual Drawing of Porter Paints Site (Grocery & Park)





Conceptual Drawing of Porter Paints Site (Pharmacy & Park)



### **CRITICAL COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS (CCIs)**

- Village at W. Jefferson (Molo)
- Quinn Chapel (YMCA & LMG)
- Old Walnut Business Plaza (LCCC)
- 18<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor (LMG)
- Smart City Framework



# Critical Community Improvements

## ***Village at W. Jefferson***



# Critical Community Improvements

## *Quinn Chapel Stabilization*





# Critical Community Improvements





# Critical Community Improvements

## Smart City Framework



Smart City Critical Community Improvements  
Camera Expansion



**THANK YOU!**